### § 958.8

#### §958.8 Proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law and supporting arguments shall be submitted orally or in writing at the conclusion of the hearing.

### §958.9 Initial decision.

Unless given orally at the conclusion of the hearing, the Administrative Law Judge shall render an initial decision as expeditiously as practicable fol-lowing the conclusion of the hearing, and the receipt of the proposed findings, if any. The initial decision shall become the final agency decision if a timely appeal is not taken.

#### §958.10 Appeal.

Either party may file exceptions in a brief on appeal to the Judicial Officer within 5 days after receipt of the initial or tentative decision unless additional time is granted. A reply brief may be filed within 5 days after the receipt of the appeal brief by the opposing party.

# §958.11 Final agency decision.

The Judicial Officer shall render a final agency decision or he shall refer the matter to the Postmaster General or the Deputy Postmaster General for such final decision. The decision shall be served upon the parties and upon the postmaster at the office where the box is located.

#### § 958.12 Compromise and informal disposition.

Nothing in these rules precludes the compromise, settlement, and informal disposition of proceedings initiated under these rules at any time prior to the issuance of the final agency decision.

### §958.13 Petition to revoke, amend, or modify.

A party against whom an order has been issued may file a petition for the revocation, amendment or modification thereof. The Recorder shall transmit a copy of the petition to the General Counsel, who may file a written reply. A copy of the reply shall be sent to the petitioner by the Recorder. Thereafter an order granting or denying such application will be issued by the Judicial Officer.

[36 FR 11578, June 16, 1971, as amended at 63 FR 66052, Dec. 1, 1998]

## § 958.14 Ex parte communications.

The provisions of 5 U.S.C. 551(14), 556(d) and 557(d) prohibiting ex parte communications are made applicable to proceedings under these rules of practice.

[42 FR 5358, Jan. 28, 1977]

# PART 959—RULES OF PRACTICE IN PROCEEDINGS RELATIVE TO THE **PRIVATE EXPRESS STATUTES**

Sec. 959 1 Authority for rules. 959.2 Scope of rules. 959 3 Office, business hours. Demands for payment of postage. 959.4 959 5 Appeals from demands. 959.6 Revocations of suspension. Notice of hearing. 959.7 Service of petition filed under §959.6. 959 8 959.9 Filing documents for the record. 959.10 Default. 959.11 Amendment of pleadings. 959 12 Continuances and extensions. 959.13 Hearings. 959.14 Change of place of hearings. 959.15 Appearances Presiding officers. 959.16 959.17 Evidence. 959.18 Subpoenas. 959.19 Witness fees. 959.20 Depositions. 959.21 Transcript. Proposed findings and conclusions. 959.22 959 23 Decisions 959.24 Exceptions to initial decision or tentative decision. 959.25 Judicial Officer. 959.26 Motion for reconsideration. 959 27 Modification or revocation of orders. Computation of time. 959.30 Public information.

959.28 959.29 Official record.

959.31 Ex parte communications.

AUTHORITY: 39 U.S.C. 204, 401; 39 CFR 224.1(c)(6)(ii)(D).

SOURCE: 39 FR 33213, Sept. 16, 1974, unless otherwise noted.

# § 959.1 Authority for rules.

These rules are issued by the Judicial Officer of the U.S. Postal Service pursuant to authority delegated by the Postmaster General.